

United States Senate

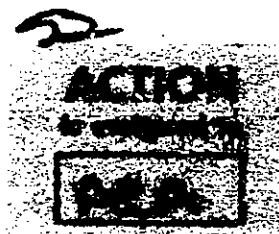
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

EAISO

December 16, 1981

Mr. Richard Fairbanks
Asst Secretary for Congressional
Relations
Department of State
Room 7261
Washington, D.C. 20520

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Dear Mr. Fairbanks:

I have been contacted by several constituents concerning the welfare of Mr. Antonio Miguel Pitura Rozapanera, an Argentinian national imprisoned by his government for subversive behavior.

Mr. Pitura was detained in October, 1975, and has served a two year sentence. He continues to remain in prison under the discretion of government officials. I am told that Argentinian law provides a prisoner under these conditions, with the right to choose exile in exchange for release from prison. Mr. Pitura has apparently requested such action, but has been denied on four occasions.

I have enclosed a copy of the background of this matter provided by the Amnesty International group 61, in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Apparently, AI Group 61 has "adopted" this individual and is working actively on his behalf. However, it is imperative that Amnesty International not be mentioned in your contacts with the Argentinians.

This is a very critical time for Mr. Pitura as a Writ of Habeas Corpus was submitted in January, 1981, and will soon be ruled upon. As the official representative of the United States government, I would request that the Department of State do everything within its power in an effort to secure the release of Mr. Pitura. I stand ready to offer whatever assistance may be deemed appropriate by your office and look forward to any information that can be provided to me.

Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Sincerely,

Donald W. Riegle, Jr.

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
Enclosure () Excise () Deny
Exemption(s):
Declassify: () In Part () In Full
() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to
Date Declassify on Reason